

Broadband ...The Essential Piece

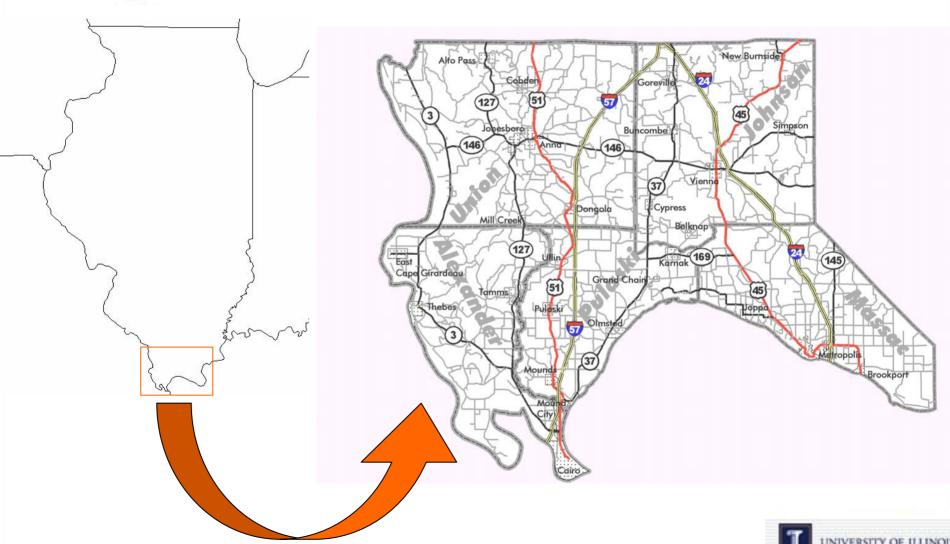
Southernmost Illinois Regional e-Partners Broadband Initiative

Creating Community and Economic Development Opportunities through an Open-Broadband Network





Where is Southernmost Illinois?





Southernmost Illinois Demographics

Population for 5 counties

2003 = 62,663

2000 = 63,270

Out Migration of Population (Youth)

Households in the 5 counties

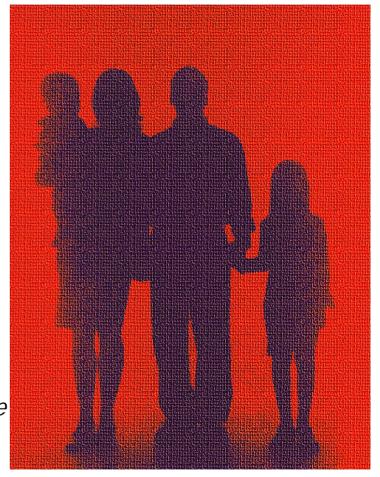
2002 = 28,209

Median Household Income

1999 = \$29,444

State = \$46,590

 Major employers include - Harrah's Casino, State Prisons (Vienna CC, Shawnee CC, Tamms "SuperMax" CC, Dixon Springs IIP, Tamms work camp), local school districts and other government agencies





2004 Lockwood Greene Report

Positives

- Geographic Location
- Transportation Infrastructure
- State and Local Taxes
- State and Local Tax Credits

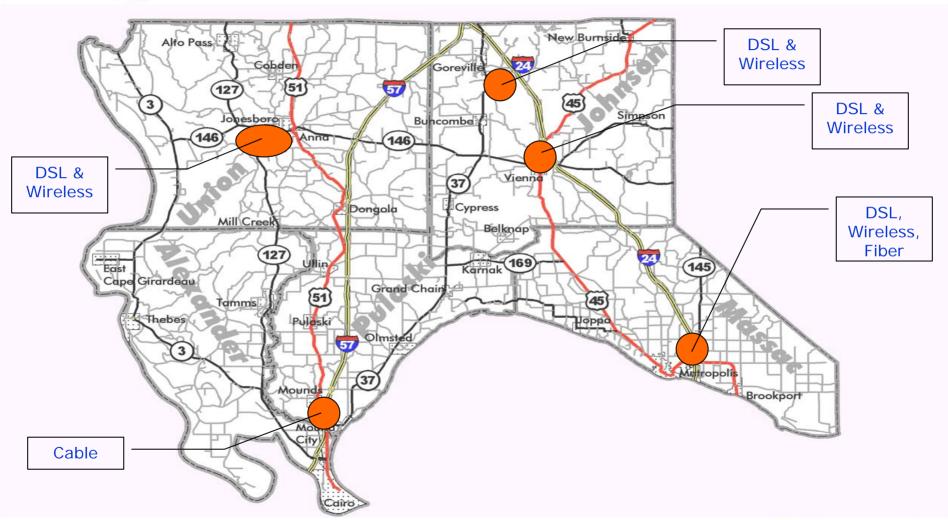
Negatives

- Education and Training (K-12)
- Available land for future Industrial Development
- Telecommunication Infrastructure

The expense of existing high-speed telecommunication services are cost prohibitive for most people in Southernmost Illinois.



Areas with Broadband Access







What ACTIONS have been Taken

Public Partnerships

Shawnee Community College, Southernmost Illinois Delta Empowerment Zone, Southern 5 Regional Planning Commission, University of Illinois Extension AJMPU

Private Partnerships

AJ Internet, Heartland Communications, LaserNet Wireless, Slingshot Wireless

- Grant Funds applied USDA RUS "Vision" proposal
- **❖** OUR VISION





How to Overcome the Need

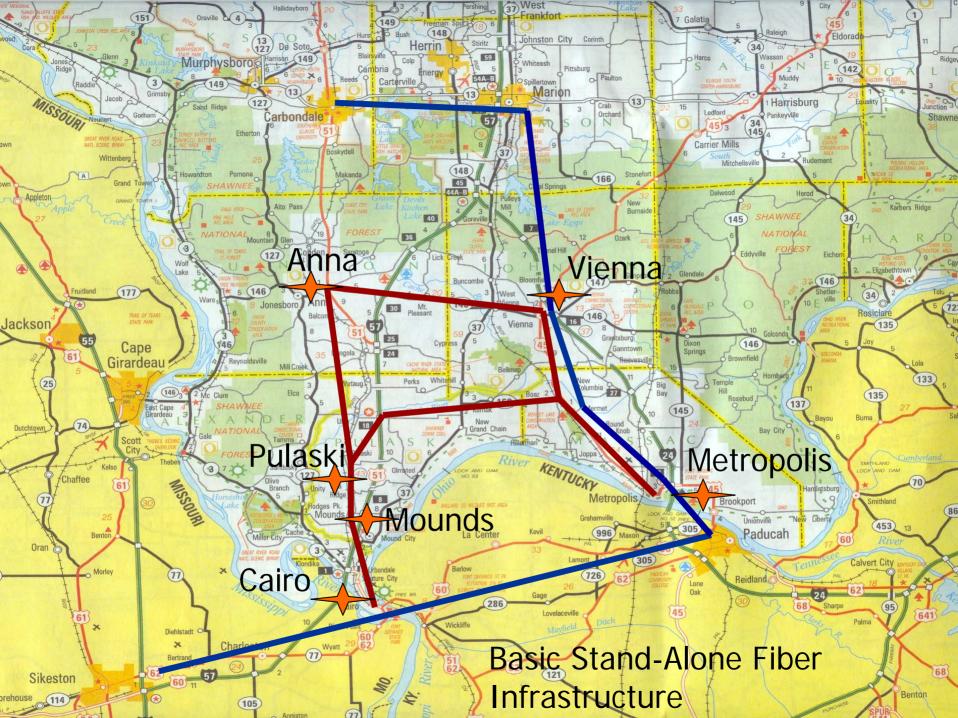
Combine technology with growth and economic development and it will help preserve Illinois' rural identity while expanding its business appeal.

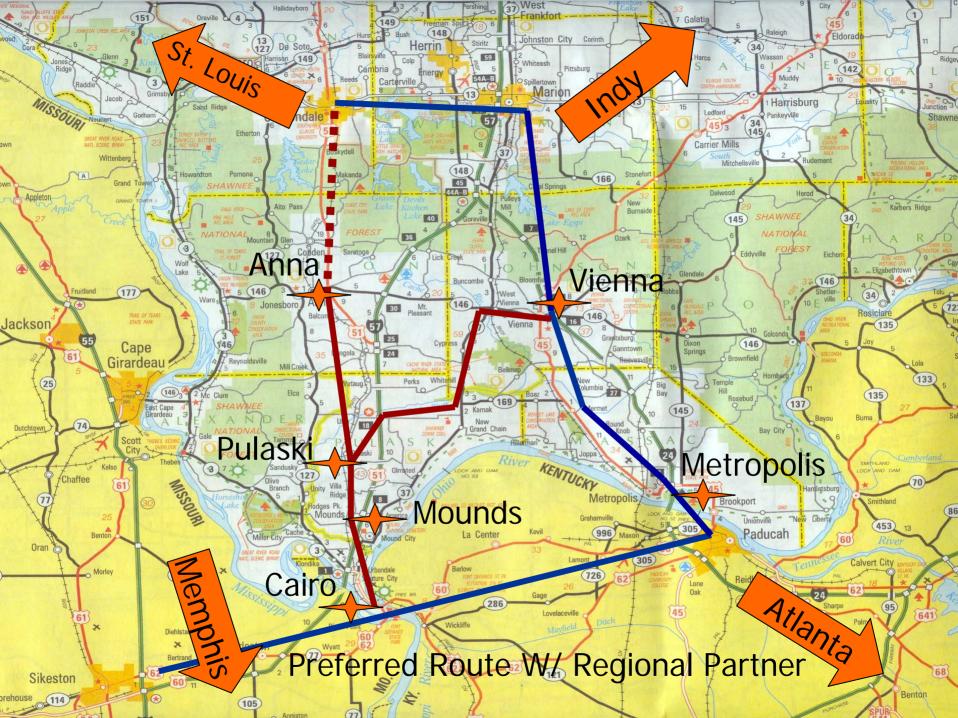


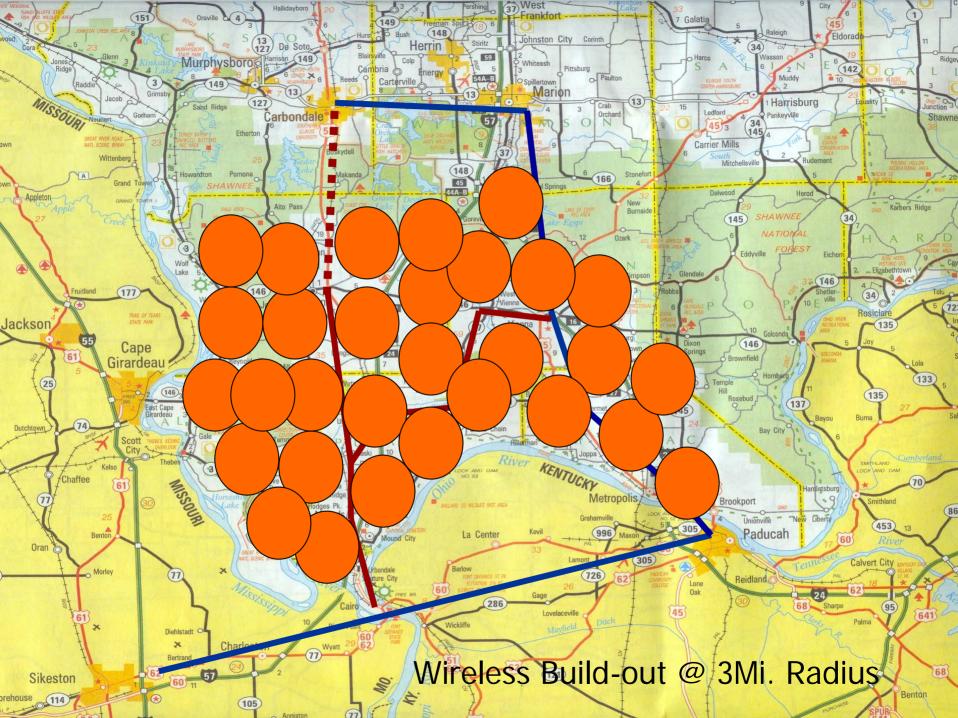


The applications and advantages to providing a fiber infrastructure to these areas are limitless, by establishing information technology communications; we can help Southernmost Illinois successfully launch development projects.











Fueling Technology Advances

Estimates

TOTAL PROJECT ESTIMATE	\$4,860,000.00
Administration & Operational	\$250,500.00
Legal & Engineering Fees, Community Education	\$334,500.00
30 Tower locations (\$15,000/site)	\$450,000.00
7 Points-of-Presence w/NOC's (\$100,000/site)	\$700,000.00
125 miles of fiber optic cable installed (\$25,000/mile)	\$3,125,000.00

- ❖ Fiber project 18 months
- ❖ Wireless Build Out 20 months





Communication Backbone

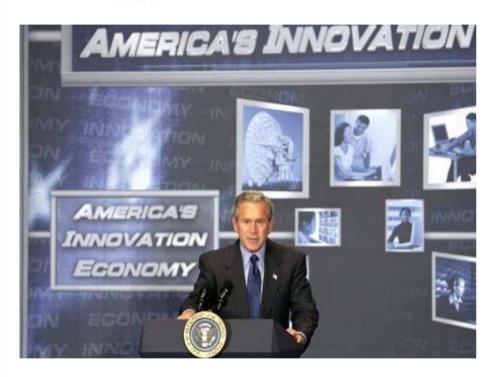
If Telecommunication Infrastructure is available to prospects, then they might come – Estimates indicate that full scale broadband deployment could create thousands of jobs and add millions of dollars to the gross state product.

If Telecommunication Infrastructure is NOT available to prospects, they WILL NOT come!





2007 Deadline



The President has called for universal, affordable access for broadband technology by the year 2007.

If Southernmost Illinois gets left behind now...it could impact the economic development for our life time.



Change and Prosper

While new technologies are continually changing, technology itself remains the conduit through which we can choose to change and prosper ... or watch the rest of the world change and prosper.







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